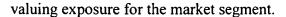## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1) A computerized method for the management and monitoring of leverage relating to financial transactions, the method comprising:

identifying an entity;

quantifying an aggregate net exposure relating to financial positions held by the identified entity, wherein the positions are held in multiple market segments;

determining a value for collateral dedicated to offset the net exposure; and

managing leverage relating to the collateral to offset the exposure.

2) The method of claim 1 wherein the entity comprises a hierarchy of related entities.

3) The method of claim 1 wherein the exposure is quantified as a monetary value in a local currency.

4) The method of claim 1 wherein the exposure is quantified according to market data.

5) The method of claim 4 wherein the market data is quantified using a calculation of the median of multiple values.

6) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of the collateral is determined from the liquidation price of property underlying the collateral.

7) The method of claim 6 wherein multiple types of property underlie the collateral.

8) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising monitoring the leverage in real time.

9) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising:

calculating an aggregate exposure accumulation comprising cross-entity exposure netting, cross product exposure netting and cross agreement exposure netting.

10) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising:

calculating a current percentage margin and implementing an action plan if the current percentage margin falls below a predetermined level.

11) The method of claim 1 wherein the collateral comprises a financial instrument to which a monetary value can be attached.

12) The method of claim 1 wherein the financial positions are based on trading activities conducted in an exchange market.

13) The method of claim 1 wherein the financial positions are based on trading activities executed in an off-exchange market.

14) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising displaying data relating to the leverage and exposure to a party and a counterparty involved on a user interface machine.

15) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising managing the leverage according to rules specific to conditions and requirements of a particular market segment.

16) The method of claim 1 wherein leverage is managed across market segments.

17) The method of claim 1 wherein leverage is aggregated across market segments.

18) The method of claim 1 wherein the entity comprises a volume purchase group.

19) The method of claim 1 wherein managing leverage comprises monitizing unrealized positions from one market sector to cross-fund positions in another sector.

20) The method of clam 1 wherein the aggregate net exposure comprises cross-product netting.

21) The method of clam 1 wherein the aggregate net exposure comprises cross-agreement netting.

22) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising computing net exposure values separately for financial product groupings and accumulating product grouping totals according to a parent entity.

23) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising accumulating market product segments forming a composite of exposure across market segments.

24) A computerized method of managing collateral for financial transactions, the method comprising:

settling a trade consummating a financial deal relating to a particular market segment;

monitoring exposure levels across market segments to determine if exposure remains within a predetermined tolerance; and

initiating communication for additional collateral resultant to the exposure exceeding the predetermined tolerance.

25) A computerized method for the management and monitoring of leverage relating to financial transactions, the method comprising:

identifying a market segment;

quantifying an aggregate net exposure resulting from positions relating to the identified market segment;

determining a value for collateral dedicated to offset the net exposure; and

valuing exposure for the market segment.

26) The method of claim 25 wherein the market segment relates to a specific industry.

27) A method of securing an online transaction comprising:

quantifying an exposure relating to a financial transaction executed online;

allocating collateral to offset the exposure; and

re-allocating the collateral in response to a mitigating event removing or lessening the exposure.

28) The method of claim 27 wherein the mitigating event is a subsequent transaction.

29) The method of claim 27 or 28 wherein the online transaction is a sale of goods.

30) The method of claim 27 or 28 wherein the online transaction is resultant to an online auction.

31) A computer system for managing leverage relating to a financial position, the system comprising:

a processor;

a storage medium;

programmable code stored in the storage medium and operative with the processor to:

identify an entity or hierarchy of related entities;

aggregate a net exposure resulting from the identified entity, or hierarchy of related entities, having financial positions in multiple market segments;

determine a value for collateral dedicated to offset the exposure; and

manage leverage of the collateral.

32) The computer system of claim 31 additionally comprising a data management engine operative according to programmable code to process conditional values based upon market conditions and perform currency translations.

33) The computer system of claim 32 further comprising a business logic engine operative to perform calculations according to rule sets.

34) The computer system of claim 32 additionally comprising an event notification engine to receive and publish information.

35) A computer data signal embodied in a digital data stream comprising data including aggregated exposure and collateral data, wherein the computer data signal is generated by a method comprising the steps of:

NYB 1155828.1

aggregating an exposure across multiple market segments;

determining a value for collateral dedicated to offset the exposure; and

managing leverage created by the ratio of the collateral to the exposure.

36) The computer data signal of claim 35 wherein the exposure relates to a particular entity.

37) The computer data signal of claim 35 wherein the exposure relates to a particular industry.

38) Computer executable program code residing on a computer-readable medium, the program code comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

aggregating an exposure across multiple market segments;

determining a value for collateral dedicated to offset the exposure; and

managing leverage created by the ratio of the collateral to the exposure.

39) A method of interacting with a network access device so as to provide leverage management of collateral, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing a server on a computer network;

receiving data relating to an exposure, wherein the exposure is resultant to an aggregation of financial positions held by an entity in multiple market segments;

determining a value for collateral dedicated to offset the exposure; and

managing leverage created by the ratio of the collateral to the exposure.

40) An interface displayable on an electronic display, the interface comprising:

a geographic area containing a description of a trading entity;

a geographic area containing an aggregate exposure resulting from the trading entity having financial positions in multiple market segments; and

a geographic area containing a recommended action relating to a current percentage margin relating to the aggregate exposure.

41) The interface of claim 40 wherein the electronic display is a computer screen.

42) The interface of claim 40 wherein the electronic display is a handheld computing device.

43) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising a Party-Counterparty view mode selector.

44) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising an area displaying product or market segregation.

45) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising an area displaying a net replacement value.

46) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising an area displaying a required margin for a product or market area.

47) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising an area displaying collateral confirmed settled from a custodian.

48) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising an area displaying collateral pledged but not yet confirmed settlement from a custodian.

49) The interface of claim 40 additionally comprising an area displaying a choice box for translating a monetary value into different currencies.

50) An interface displayable on an electronic display, the interface comprising:

a geographic area containing details relating to an online transaction for a sale of goods; and

a geographic area displaying collateral posted by a party via an online leverage margin monitoring management system, wherein the collateral is posted until consummation of the transaction.